Dr. Caryl A. Potter (Sr.) WWI Military Service

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Dr. Thompson E. Potter, Sr. death notice

DR. POTTER INTO SERVICE.

Another St. Joseph Physician Leaves to Take Up Duty in Base Hospital at Camp Gordon.

Dr. Caryl Potter, lately commissioned first lieutenant in the medical corps of the army, has received orders to report Oct. 25 to the commanding general at Camp Gordon, Atlanta, Ga., for duty in

—Shultz Photograph.

DR. CARYL POTTER,

St. Joseph physician who left today for Camp Gordon, Ga., as a lieutenant in the army medical corps.

the surgical division of the base hospital. He started for Camp Gordon today.

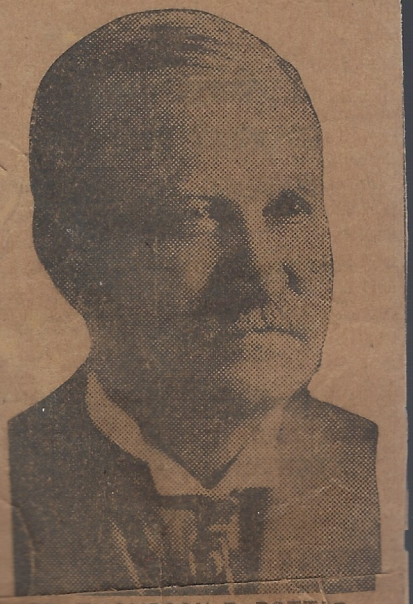
Doctor Potter was graduated from Central High School in 1905, received the degree of A. B. at the University of Missouri in 1908, and the M. D. degree at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, in 1911, completing the two degrees of four years each in six years. At Missouri University he was a member of the Phi Delta Theta and Theta Nu Epsilon fraternities, and the University Glee Club. At Johns Hopkins he was elected to Nu Sigma Nu, an honorary medical fraternity.

During his last year in medical school Doctor Potter took the competitive examination conducted jointly by New York hospitals for positions on their house staffs, was tenth out of 180 competitors, and was awarded the surgical service at Roosevelt Hospital, where he served two years on the house staff, six months as house surgeon. He returned to St. Joseph to take up practice with his father,

END COMES TO PHYSICIAN AFTER LONG ILLNESS.

Had Been in Active Practice in St. Joseph Thirty Years and Was on the Faculty of Medical Colleges—Funeral Monday Afternoon. 1916

Dr. Thompson Eldridge Potter, sixty-six years old, a pioneer physician and surgeon of St. Joseph, died at 9:15 o'clock this morning at his home, 1308 North Eleventh



DR. THOMPSON E. POTTER,
Widely known St. Joseph physician, who died this morning.

street. His wife and children were at the bedside when the end came.

The funeral service will be conducted at Francis Street Methodist Church Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock, Dr. R. E. Goodrich, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Mount Mora. The body will lie in state at the church Monday from 1 o'clock until the hour of the funeral.

Doctor Potter had been in a state of coma since Wednesday and death had been expected at any minute. Two years ago he suffered a severe attack of rheumatism, and later Bright's disease and heart trouble developed. He spent several months at Northern lake resorts and upon his return appeared to be fully recovered, but soon suffered a relapse. He had not been active in the practice of his profession for a year, and during the last several months had been confined to his residence almost continuously, although he was able to visit his office a week ago. For several weeks last winter he hovered between life and death. His condition became critical again last Sunday.

Was Born in Clinton County.

Thompson E. Potter was born in Clinton County, Missouri, Dec. 18, 1849, the son of Thomas and Hessa Smith Potter. His ancestors had fought in the continental army in the Revolutionary War.

Doctor Potter attended the public schools of DeKalb County and then took a course in McGee College, a Presbyterian institution at College Mound, Mo. Afterward he began teaching, at the same time studying medicine under a private instructor. In 1873 he entered Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. He was graduated in March, 1875, receiving the Wallace prize for a thesis.

After his graduation Doctor Potter practiced medicine nearly twelve years at Cameron. Then he filled the chair of physiology and diseases of the nervous system in Northwestern Medical College, St. Joseph, until 1884, when he resigned. In 1882 he was appointed local surgeon for the Hannibal & St. Joseph railroad, which position he held four years. He was mayor of Cameron in 1884-5. He removed to St. Joseph in 1886.

One of Founders of College.

When he resigned from the staff of Northwestern College he became one of the founders of Central Medical College here, in which for a number of years he occupied the chair of surgery and was president. When Central and Ensworth Medical colleges were merged in 1905, Doctor Potter held the chair of surgery in the consolidated institution.

The veteran physician was secretary of the board of trustees and faculty of Ensworth Deaconess Hospital Association, surgeon of St. Joseph's Hospital and a member of the Buchanan County, state and national medical societies and the Western Surgical and Gynecological Society. He was also a member of the Masons, Knights Templars, Woodmen of the World and Elks lodges. He united with the Methodist church, South, when fifteen years old, and had been a member [illegible] Francis Street Church ever since he came to St. Joseph.

April [illegible], 1880, Doctor Potter was married in St. John's Episcopal Church, Cameron, to Mary Barr Bassett. Eleven children were born, eight of whom are living, as follows: Mrs. William Oliver Macy, Colorado Springs; Mrs. Gaylord Reed Willcox, Hugo, Okla.; Mrs. Harry A. Nelson, Miami, Texas; Mrs. John N. Willman, Dr. Caryl Potter, Misses Ena Warfield, Bertha Barr and Florence Potter, all of St. Joseph. -[Married: 4-7-1880]

Was a High-Minded Man.

Of Doctor Potter's splendid character an intimate acquaintance said:

"A striking characteristic of Doctor Potter was his devotion to principles. Where many people see only the facts and results, he found a principle and followed it without fear; often grasping a principle that others could not discern at all. In all he undertook he threw himself without reserve. To the fact that he was always on the alert and possessed the power to concentrate, to be entirely absorbed in whatever engaged his attention at the time, he owed his great success as a surgeon. We may add to these qualities much imaginative power, conscientiousness, sensitive in the extreme, and a keen sense of moral obligation. For him there was no half way measure—nobility was all noble, falsehood all false—and the one thing great and beautiful on earth was the 'law of duty.'"